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**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on December 27, 2004 (12.27.04);  
original claims 1, 3, 18, 20, 35, and 37 amended; claims 2, 19 and 36 cancelled;  
remaining claims unchanged (11 pages)]

**CLAIMS**

1. (Amended) An information output device comprising:

a first information selection unit (102) selecting information;

5 an outline presenting information creation unit (107) creating outline presenting information corresponding to each of a plurality of multimedia data in parallel, said multimedia data being included in the information selected by said first information selection unit (102); and

10 a presentation unit (105) presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

said presentation unit (105) presents alternative information to replace said outline presenting information or said outline presenting information under course of creation in said outline presenting information creation unit (107) in stages according to respective said outline presenting information creation process before completion of said  
15 outline presenting information creation process.

2. (Cancelled)

20 3. (Amended) The information output device according to claim 1, further comprising:

an outline presenting information creation control unit (106) controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit (107); and

25 a storage unit (108) storing outline presenting information, wherein when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage unit (108), said outline presenting information creation control unit (106) performs control such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed in said outline presenting information creation unit (107), and

said presentation unit (105) presents said outline presenting information stored in said storage unit (108).

4. The information output device according to claim 3, further comprising a  
5 second information selection unit (102, 109) selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected by said first information selection unit (102), wherein

said outline presenting information creation unit (107) creates outline presenting  
information for multimedia data included in the information selected by said second  
10 information selection unit (102, 109) and stores the same in said storage unit (108).

5. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein said second  
information selection unit (102, 109) selects information to be subjected to said outline  
presenting information creation process based on a status of the information output  
15 device.

6. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein said second  
information selection unit (102, 109) selects information to be subjected to said outline  
presenting information creation process based on an attribute of said information  
20 selected by said first information selection unit (102).

7. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein when  
information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of  
information selected by said second information selection unit (102, 109), said outline  
25 presenting information creation control unit (106) controls execution of said outline  
presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation  
unit (107) such that, for all information selected by said second information selection  
unit (102, 109), outline presenting information for at least one multimedia data included

in said information is created.

8. The information output device according to claim 4, wherein when  
information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of  
5 information selected by said second information selection unit (102, 109), said outline  
presenting information creation control unit (106) controls execution of said outline  
presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation  
unit (107) such that, for one piece of information selected by said second information  
selection unit (102, 109), outline presenting information for multimedia data included in  
10 information subsequent to said one piece of information is created after outline  
presenting information for all multimedia data included in said one piece of information  
has been created.

9. The information output device according to claim 3, further comprising:  
15 a deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selecting outline  
presenting information to be subjected to deletion from said storage unit (108); and  
a deletion unit (106) deleting said selected outline presenting information.

10. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted  
20 outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting  
information to be subjected to deletion based on an attribute of multimedia data.

11. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted  
outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting  
25 information to be subjected to deletion based on a data size of said outline presenting  
information.

12. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted

outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on costs of said outline presenting information creation process in said outline presenting information creation unit (107).

5           13. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion based on a presentation status of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit (105).

10           14. The information output device according to claim 9, wherein when said deleted outline presenting information selection unit (106) selects a plurality of said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion, said deletion unit (106) deletes prescribed outline presenting information among said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion such that outline presenting information of at  
15 least one multimedia data included in one piece of information is left.

          15. The information output device according to claim 1, further comprising an outline presenting information presentation control unit (105) controlling a timing of presentation of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit (105).

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          16. The information output device according to claim 15, wherein said outline presenting information presentation control unit (105) controls said timing of presentation of said outline presenting information in said presentation unit (105) such that said outline presenting information is presented after expiration of a prescribed time  
25 interval after said information is selected by said first information selection unit (102).

          17. The information output device according to claim 1, wherein said multimedia data is data including an image, and

said outline presenting information creation unit (107) creates said outline presenting information using at least a part of said image.

18. (amended) An information output method comprising:

5 a first information selection step (S101, S201, S213) of selecting information;  
an outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339) of creating outline presenting information corresponding to each of a plurality of multimedia data in parallel, said multimedia data being included in the information selected at said first information selection step (S101, S201, S213); and

10 a presentation step (S117, S137, S215) of presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

at said presentation step (S137, S215), alternative information to replace said outline presenting information or said outline presenting information under course of creation processing at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339) is presented in stages according to respective said outline presenting information creation process before completion of said outline presenting information creation process.

19. (cancelled)

20. (amended) The information output method according to claim 18, further comprising:

20 an outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S125, S331, S335, S337) of controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339); and

25 a storage step (S133, S345) of storing outline presenting information in a storage device, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage device,  
at said outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S331,  
S335), control is performed such that said outline presenting information creation  
process is not executed at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127,  
5 S333, S339), and  
at said presentation step (S117, S215), said outline presenting information stored  
in said storage device is presented.

21. The information output method according to claim 20, further comprising a  
10 second information selection step (S301-S313) of selecting information to be subjected  
to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information  
selected at said first information selection step (S201), wherein  
at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339), outline  
presenting information of multimedia data included in the information selected at said  
15 second information selection step (S301-S313) is created and stored in said storage  
device.

22. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein at said  
second information selection step (S301-S313), said information to be subjected to said  
20 outline presenting information creation process is selected based on a status of an  
information output device.

23. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein at said  
second information selection step (S301-S313), said information to be subjected to said  
25 outline presenting information creation process is selected based on an attribute of said  
information selected at said first information selection step (S201).

24. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein when

information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), at said outline presenting information creation control step (S331, S335), execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339) is controlled such that, for all the information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), outline presenting information of at least one multimedia data included in said information is created.

25. The information output method according to claim 21, wherein when information including a plurality of multimedia data is included in multiple pieces of information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), at said outline presenting information creation control step (S331, S335), execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339) is controlled such that, for one piece of information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313), outline presenting information for multimedia data included in subsequent information is created after outline presenting information for all multimedia data included in said one piece of information has been created.

26. The information output method according to claim 20, further comprising: a deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511) of selecting outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion from said storage step (S133, S345); and

a deletion step (S513) of deleting said selected outline presenting information.

27. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on an attribute of

multimedia data.

28. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline  
5 presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on a data size of said outline presenting information.

29. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline  
10 presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on costs of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339).

30. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), said outline  
15 presenting information to be subjected to deletion is selected based on a presentation status of said outline presenting information at said presentation step (S117, S215).

31. The information output method according to claim 26, wherein when a  
20 plurality of said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion are selected at said deleted outline presenting information selection step (S501-S511), at said deletion step (S513), prescribed outline presenting information among said outline presenting information to be subjected to deletion is deleted such that outline presenting  
information of at least one multimedia data included in one piece of information is left.

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32. The information output method according to claim 18, further comprising an outline presenting information presentation control step (S117, S215) of controlling a timing of presentation of said outline presenting information at said presentation step



(S117, S215).

33. The information output method according to claim 32, wherein at said outline presenting information presentation control step (S117, S215), said timing of presentation of said outline presenting information at said presentation step (S117, S215) is controlled such that said outline presenting information is presented after expiration of a prescribed time interval after said information is selected at said first information selection step (S101, S201, S213).

34. The information output method according to claim 18, wherein said multimedia data is data including an image, and at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339), said outline presenting information is created using at least a part of said image.

35. (amended) An information output program product causing a computer to execute a process of outputting information including multimedia data, causing execution of:

a first information selection step (S101, S201, S213) of selecting information; an outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339) of creating outline presenting information corresponding to each of a plurality of multimedia data in parallel, said multimedia data being included in the information selected at said first information selection step (S101, S201, S213); and

a presentation step (S117, S137, S215) of presenting said created outline presenting information, wherein

at said presentation step (S137, S215), alternative information to replace said outline presenting information or said outline presenting information under course of creation processing at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339) is presented in stages according to respective said outline presenting

information creation process before completion of said outline presenting information creation process.

36. (cancelled)

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37. (amended) The information output program product according to claim 35, further causing execution of:

an outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S125, S331, S335, S337) of controlling execution of said outline presenting information creation process at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339);  
and

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a storage step (S133, S345) of storing outline presenting information in a storage device, wherein

when said outline presenting information is stored in said storage device,

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at said outline presenting information creation control step (S109, S113, S331, S335), control is performed such that said outline presenting information creation process is not executed at said outline presenting information creation step (S111, S127, S333, S339), and

at said presentation step (S117, S215), said outline presenting information stored in said storage device is presented.

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38. The information output program product according to claim 37, further causing execution of a second information selection step (S301-S313) of selecting information to be subjected to said outline presenting information creation process based on said information selected at said first information selection step (S201), wherein

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at said outline presenting information creation step (S333, S339), outline presenting information of multimedia data included in the information selected at said second information selection step (S301-S313) is created and stored in said storage

device.